

**REMARKS**

In response to an Office Action mailed 27 September 2002 including a restriction requirement, Applicants elected the Invention of Group I, Claims 1-31, for prosecution on the merits in the subject U.S. Patent Application. In a subsequent Office Action, dated 15 January 2003, Examiner Rossi withdrew Claims 32-41 from further consideration as a result of Applicants' election. Applicants filed an Amendment on 15 April 2003 in response to the Office Action, wherein Claims 32-41 were canceled. Applicants filed a subsequent Amendment, wherein Claims 32-41 were listed as canceled, on 04 September 2003. The subject Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment was mailed on 16 September 2003.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, stating that "the text for withdrawn Claims 30-41 have not been presented" and requiring that the Amendments to the Claims section be re-submitted, was incorrectly mailed. Applicants submit that the Amendment filed on 04 September 2003 meets the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121, as amended on 30 June 2003. During a telephone conference between Examiner Rossi and the undersigned attorney, Examiner Rossi confirmed that the notice was incorrectly mailed and that listing Claims 32-41 as canceled in the filed Amendment documents was appropriate. Thus, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Notice Of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed 16 September 2003.

Applicants intend to be fully responsive to the outstanding Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment. If the Examiner detects any issue which the Examiner believes Applicants have not overcome in this response, Applicants' undersigned attorney requests a telephone interview with the Examiner. The undersigned can be reached at 847.490.1400.

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Applicants sincerely believe that this Patent Application is now in condition for allowance and, thus, respectfully request early allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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